

every American to do their part to observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BOROUGH OF SOMERVILLE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the citizens of the Borough of Somerville, county of Somerset, New Jersey, as they celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the incorporation of their municipality.

Although the Borough of Somerville was not incorporated until April 16, 1909, its roots lie much deeper in American history. The town of Somerville was settled in 1683 by Dutch and English immigrants as part of Bridgewater Township. The town unwaveringly aided in the fight for the independence of our Nation, including housing General George Washington from December 1778 to June 1779 while the Continental Army was stationed at Camp Middlebrook.

Until the 1840s, Somerville was a sparsely populated agricultural community. However, with the completion of the rail line in the 1840s and the development of water power in the 1850s, Somerville rapidly developed. From the abundant red clay from which Somerville was built, brick making became one of the earliest industries.

Today, Somerville is an essential hub in central New Jersey, and the seat of county government, the Somerset Board of Chosen Freeholders. Its bustling yet quaint Main Street boasts numerous boutique specialty shops and a large variety of dining options. The borough also hosts many local recreational, cultural, and historical activities, including the annual Tour of Somerville bike race, the oldest bicycle race in the United States, and both the home of the historic Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage. Somerville has truly become a premiere destination for visitors.

The Borough of Somerville continues to grow and prosper. Currently, the borough is in the process of completing a large redevelopment project to include a new shopping center, town homes, and many other amenities on the grounds of the former borough landfill. The project is centered around the Somerville train station and envisioned as a transit village redevelopment.

Madam Speaker, for 100 years, Somerville has been a center for local commerce, not only the citizens of Somerville, but for all of New Jersey. Somerville is truly a unique and special part of New Jersey, and I ask you, Madam Speaker, and my colleagues to congratulate all residents of Somerville on their special centennial celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on October 7, 2009 I missed rollcall

votes 756, 757, 758, 759 and 760. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" or "aye" on all.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY'S PIZZA
SHACK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, LYNN WOOLSEY, to recognize and honor Mary's Pizza Shack, which has been selected as the Business of the Year by the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Not only is Mary's Pizza Shack being honored by the Chamber, but the restaurant chain is celebrating its 50th year anniversary as a mainstay in Sonoma Valley.

Family matriarch, Mary Fazio, started the business in Boyes Hot Springs with a \$700 investment and pots and pans from her own kitchen. Her dream was to have a warm, family-friendly place where people could enjoy hearty portions of her family's favorite foods at reasonable prices. It was clearly a recipe for success. Today there are 18 "Shacks" in seven counties in Northern California and this third generation-run family business is branching out this year with a new fast/casual restaurant concept to compliment to original Mary's Pizza Shacks.

But Mary's is much more than a successful business model; it is an integral part of the fabric of the community.

For generations, it is been the after-game destination for every sports team in the valley, young or old. Countless victories have been celebrated there and losses have been made a little more bearable with a pepperoni pizza or two.

Since its inception, Mary's has given back to the community through its financial support of 50 community organizations each year, through its popular "Dine and Donate" nights, and its commitment to the valley's youth. As an employer, Mary's makes it a point to hire people with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, local businesses in the small communities throughout our two Congressional districts are much more than employers. They are the backbone of a support system for projects, non-profit organizations, and our youth and civic events that would not be successful without their involvement. Like many of the businesses selected by the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce as its Business of the Year, Mary's Pizza Shack exemplifies this commitment. It is therefore appropriate for us to honor Mary's Pizza Shack, the Fazio family and all of their employees, both past and present, for 50 years of dedicated service to the Sonoma Valley.

INTRODUCING H.R. _____, DRUG
PRICE COMPETITION ACT OF 2009

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Drug Price Com-

petition Act of 2009, a bill that will help achieve some of the goals that are essential to health care reform: ensuring fair market competition and increasing access to affordable drugs.

State-of-the-art drugs have undoubtedly improved and saved lives, and consumer demand for these drugs has certainly posed an economic burden on countless Americans. Although prescription drugs account for 10 percent of total health care expenditures, it is one of the fastest-growing segments within health care spending. Consumers are not the only ones who face the cost of prescription drugs. The federal government is now the largest purchaser of drugs in the United States and accounts for roughly two-fifths of the drug consumer market.

Generic drugs cost between 80–85 percent less than brand name drugs and comprise 70 percent of all drug prescriptions that are filled in the United States today. Many have acknowledged the role that generics have played in alleviating the burden of prescription drug costs on individual and government health care spending. The Hatch-Waxman Act of 1984 established a pathway for generic drugs to receive approval from the Food and Drug Administration, FDA, and enter the consumer market. However, some generic and brand name drug companies have exploited a flaw in this Act and have restricted access to generics.

Under the Hatch-Waxman Act, the first drug company that submits an application for product approval to the FDA receives a 180-day period of exclusivity in which no other generic company is allowed to enter the market. This application is also accompanied with a challenge to the brand company's drug patent. In response, brand companies often pay generic companies large sums of money to encourage them to postpone their entry into the market.

Generic drug companies frequently comply because they can retain their 180-day period of exclusivity even if they agree to enter the market years later than was first anticipated. Additionally, generic manufactures that were not the first-to-file have no incentive to challenge the brand company's patent and potentially open the blocked markets because they would not be able to enter the market until after the 180-day exclusivity period.

Madam Speaker, the Drug Price Competition Act of 2009 is a House companion to a bill that Senator BILL NELSON of Florida introduced earlier this year. The bill targets the root of the blocked drug market problem. It allows generic companies that win patent challenges to share the 180-day exclusivity period with the generic companies that first submitted an application to the FDA. However, no subsequent challenger would be eligible to share in the exclusivity reward once the generic drug has been launched.

If enacted, first-to-file generic manufactures would be less likely to accept a late entry date because this would mean that another generic manufacturer could win a patent challenge and share the 180-day exclusivity period.

Madam Speaker, generic medications are critical to managing everything from heart disease to battling life-threatening cancer. Stymied market competition and delayed access to generic medication pose serious health and economic costs to patients and taxpayers. The Drug Price Competition Act of 2009 will effectively correct the systemic flaw in the Hatch-

Waxman Act that has blocked price competition, and increase access to affordable life-saving medications. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill that takes a fair market and cost-saving approach to improving our health care system.

HONORING COMMANDER ROBERT
"CLEM" CLEMENTS

HON. ERIC J.J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. MASSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and fellow Naval Officer, CDR Robert S. Clements. Tomorrow, after his 25-year tenure with the United States Navy, Commander Clements will commemorate his retirement with a ceremony aboard the Display Ship *Barry* in the Washington Navy Yard.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve in May 1984 and graduated from Recruit Basic Training in October 1984. After receiving his commission in the Navy and graduating with a B.S. degree in Business Management in May 1988, Commander Clements subsequently graduated from Navy Supply Corps School, Athens, GA, in December 1988.

In January 1989, Commander Clements reported to USS *Savannah* (AOR-4) in Norfolk, VA, and served as the Disbursing Officer, Sales Officer, and Food Service Officer. In April 1992, he reported to Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base, New Orleans, LA, where he served as Combined Bachelor Quarters Officer, and Aviation Support Division Officer. After receiving his M.S. degree in business management from Troy State University in August 1994, he served as Supply Officer in USS *Elliot* (DD-967) in San Diego, CA from 1995 to May 1997.

Commander Clements was selected to serve as the Officer in Charge, Chairman's Dining Room, Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon, Washington, DC, where he served on the Joint Staff from June 1997 to July 1999. A millennium graduate of the Marine Corps University, Command and Staff College, he completed the 10-month Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) Phase I curriculum and Military Operations other than War (MOOTW).

Commander Clements served as the Director of Operations, Fleet Hospital Support Office, Williamsburg, VA from August 2000 to September 2003 and as Deputy Director of Operations and Mobilization Officer, Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Force (NAVELSF), Williamsburg, VA from October 2002 to July 2004 where he mobilized the initial NAVELSF capabilities in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I. He then served as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics/N4A, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, Commander, U.S. Fifth Fleet, Manama, Bahrain in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II and additionally, he led the logistics crisis action planning in support of the October 2005 Pakistan earthquake relief effort.

From May 2006 to August 2007, Commander Clements served as the Director of Logistics, Reserve Component Command, Region Mid-Atlantic and was responsible for the integration of Navy Reserve Readiness Command Mid-Atlantic, Wash., D.C. and Navy Re-

serve Readiness Command, Northeast, Newport, RI. He also served as the Director of Logistics, Naval Air Facility, Washington, D.C. from September 2007 to December 2007. Commander Clements is currently the Deputy Director of Training and Readiness (J-97), Joint Reserves Forces, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Fort Belvoir, VA, responsible for the training and readiness of over 750 military reservists assigned throughout the DLA organization supporting worldwide military operations.

His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Commendation medal (three awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (five awards). Commander Clements was the recipient of the Naval Reserve Association's 1994 Junior Officer of the Year Award. He is a life member of the Naval Reserve Association, NRA, and also a member of the National Naval Officers Association. On behalf of the United States Congress, it is my honor to recognize Commander Clements and the essential contributions he has made to our great Nation.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, October marks Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Right now there are over 2.5 million breast cancer survivors in this nation.

Jean Kling in Aiken, SC is one. Upon hearing of her diagnosis, Mrs. Kling tearfully and bravely smiled at her husband and three grown children. Nothing had prepared any of them for this news. But like every other challenge in her life, Mrs. Kling encouraged herself in her faith in Jesus Christ and began the process of getting well.

She underwent a mastectomy. Lost all her hair during six months of chemotherapy and saw signs of re-growth during six months of radiation. After all her treatments, doctors said she was cancer free and she remains that way 10 years later.

Mrs. Kling is one of many women who have survived the devastating diagnosis of breast cancer. During October, we remember our loved ones who have lost their lives to this disease and we thank all those in the medical profession, researchers and the American Cancer Society for all they do to make a difference.

TRIBUTE TO CELIA TORRES
GARCIA MALDONADO

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to join in the commemorations of Hispanic Heritage Month and as it is known in my dis-

trict, as the Puerto Rico—Virgin Islands Friendship Celebration, to honor and commend a mover and shaker in my community, who has served our community, in particular its youth in an exceptional manner for many years. Celia Torres Garcia Maldonado, or Cielo, as she is affectionately known, has for the past thirty five years been the visionary behind an organization that has provided structure, creativity, and the opportunity to excel to young women and men on my home island, St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

In 1974, when her young daughter expressed interest in becoming a majorette, Cielo, finding that there were not any viable groups for her to join on St. Croix, took it upon herself, with the help of like minded friends to found the St. Croix Majorettes, an organization which has stood the test of time in providing a positive outlet for St. Croix's youth to develop their performing talent.

As the story is told, with the purchase of a baton and the help of her sister Mirta L. Martnez, it all began. The St. Croix Majorettes was organized in May 1974 with Celia T. Maldonado as director, and Mirta L. Martinez and Maria Cotto as co-directors. These ladies were assisted by the late Miguel Duchesne.

The local majorettes started with twenty girls practicing at the Canegata Ball Park. Within two months, and with the help of the Doc James Radio Talk Show, parents were encouraged to register their children and this led to an increase of 150 active participants. In 1975, the St. Croix Majorettes and Marching Band were officially inducted into the Majorettes and Band Federation of Puerto Rico. The organization grew and eventually, Cielo and the St. Croix Majorettes, was responsible for hosting the first Majorette festival on St. Croix. Seven groups came from Puerto Rico and one from St. Thomas to participate in the VIPR Friendship Day celebrations.

Under the leadership of Cielo, the St. Croix Majorettes have been invited and have participated in numerous festivities on the U.S. mainland and Caribbean islands representing St. Croix in a dignified and diligent manner.

After thirty three years, Celio T. Maldonado, director of the St. Croix Majorettes, has over 300 members who are still performing whenever they are called upon to do so. They continue to practice at their headquarters located in Est. Peter's Rest. All members and parents of the St. Croix Majorettes have become her most precious "extended family".

Her utmost satisfaction, pride and joy is when former members, who are now parents, bring their children to enroll. As she travels around and meets her "extended family", her proud remark is always, "This is, or was one of my majorettes."

Cielo's reach has been far and wide. For instance, one of my staffers, Attorney Angeline Muckle Jabbar, one of the original group of little girls who are now successful in their careers, was molded by Cielo and the St. Croix Majorettes.

Madam Speaker, today, I ask the Congress to join me in commending an outstanding Virgin Islander and American of Hispanic Heritage who continues to serve her community and its youth in an outstanding manner.